Office of Governor Mitch Daniels



Governor's Weekly Wrap-up

April 30-May 6, 2007

V1, Issue 33

Daniels signs bill to increase benefits for Hoosier veterans and military families

May 3, 2007

Governor Daniels was joined by Hoosier veterans and soldiers from across the state and leaders from state and national veterans organizations as he signed Senate Enrolled Act 480 into law. The measure increases benefits for Indiana's veterans and military families.

"As soon as the need was mentioned to our fellow Hoosiers to modernize and improve our rules and treatment of our veterans and their families, there was instant positive reaction. It was bipartisan, it was cooperative, and it was mutual," said Daniels. "There will not be a state in America that expresses its reverence, its



May 3, 2007 - Governor Daniels signs SEA 480, a bill that contains initiatives he introduced in November 2006 to help Hoosier veterans and military families.

gratitude, its appreciation for the soldiers of today and yesterday, more than we will."

The governor also signed HEA 1092 which exempts an individual on active military duty from serving on a jury, outlines circumstances under which an employee may take unpaid leave for military service, and requires an employee to be restored to the original or equivalent position that the employee held before leave.

<u>Click here</u> to visit Governor Daniels' Web site to listen to audio from the bill signing ceremony. <u>Click here</u> to read the news release.

Governor Daniels announces first state-funded firefighting training program

May 5, 2007 - Governor Daniels kicked off implementation of the first, state-funded local firefighter training program in Spencer, Indiana. The courses will enable thousands of volunteer and full-time firefighters from across Indiana to learn and practice the latest techniques for extinguishing blazes and performing rescue maneuvers.

"These devoted men and women have incredibly dangerous jobs and we are thankful they are always ready to respond in our time of need," Daniels said. "These lessons provide the best training available at locations that are close to home."

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Governor Daniels hits the road...again

April 30, 2007

Governor Mitch Daniels hit the road this week making several major economic development announcements for the state as well as making several other stops.

In Daleville, Governor Daniels announced IBM's decision to locate a new customer call center, creating 500 new jobs. The new center will locate in the former Burlington Motor Carriers facility near Interstate 69 later this year.

IBM will initially hire 200 people to start the new center later this year and add 300 more to the call center by 2010. The company and its partners also plan to hire an additional 500 employees throughout the state over the next three years.

Governor Daniels traveled to Fort Wayne to make his second economic development announcement of the day. The system manufactured by Plasmatronics with Lonnie governor announced that Tri-Co Solutions plans to locate its



April 24, 2007 - Governor Daniels takes a look at the ignition Lenarduzzi, chief scientist for Plasmatronics in Crown Point.

new engineering and design operations here, creating 115 new high-paying jobs. The firm, which is a spin off of Michigan-based Tri-Co Design, will invest more than \$1 million to begin its operations in leased office space at 2990 E. Coliseum Boulevard.

"Daleville earlier today, now this great news for Fort Wayne. Tri-Co is the latest company to discover that Indiana is a great place to do business," said Daniels.

The governor finished the day in Fort Wayne. At the Grand Wayne Convention Center, he gave the keynote address at the Allen County Republican Party Lincoln Day Dinner. The governor praised both political parties for a job well done this session but stressed to attendees that it is vital to keep Republican leadership to ensure Indiana progresses.

May 1-2, 2007

Governor Daniels commended members of the General Assembly after it concluded its work on Sunday, April 29.

"I hope all Hoosiers feel as happy and gratified as I do this morning. I want to commend every member of the General Assembly. People who feared gridlock and paralysis instead saw another session of dramatic change and progress for our state," said Daniels.

The governor conducted media availabilities across the state to discuss the 2007 legislative session and his legislative agenda making stops in South Bend, Gary, Terre Haute, Clarksville, and Evansville.

May 4, 2007

On Friday, the governor spent his afternoon in Kosciusko County. He announced that Warsaw-based Zimmer, Inc. will make its third expansion in three years in Kosciusko County and create more than 140 new jobs. In addition, the governor officially opened Heritage Trail, a new 1.8 mile section of the Lake City Greenway. Lake City Greenway is a proposed eight-mile trail that is part of a plan to connect lakes and parks throughout Kosciusko County. It was built utilizing approximately \$1.25 million of federal, state and local funding.

"Jobs announcements and announcements like this one are really not unrelated to each other," said Daniels. "Among many, many reasons we seek to make Indiana known as the 'State of Trails' is that it will enhance the quality of life and promote wellness."